

caste anyway, as represented in the wide divergence in public and private salaries? It takes a lot of nerve for those getting \$5,000 and \$10,000 salaries to suggest a 10 per cent reduction for the teaching and clerical forces, especially when it is well known that the ten district superintendents are superannuated dead timber costing the city \$50,000 per year, not one of them being able to hold a real teaching job a month without a "pull."—A. Worthington, 7140 Normal ave.

**RELIGION AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**—The charges and counter charges appearing in the daily press concerning the injection of the religious issue into politics appears to dodge the real issue. It is safe to assume that any writer or any publication that attempts to confuse these subjects in the minds of the voters is not a reliable public guide upon any matter of importance to the public.

Religion, as commonly understood, refers simply to man's relations with his Creator. Politics has to do with man's relations to man, and includes his theories as to the best forms of government and the best methods of establishing and maintaining them.

Everybody recognizes the fact that religion in itself has nothing to do with a man's qualifications for office, and any person who votes either for or against a candidate solely on account of his religious beliefs, disregarding all other considerations, is not a loyal American citizen.

But, the question is, where should we draw the line between religious belief and political conviction? If, for instance, I am firmly convinced that our public schools are a vital necessity and indispensable foundation for the maintenance and perpetuation of our free government, is it not a political duty for me to uphold them to the best of my ability? If I honorably oppose the candidacy of any person upon the basis of his con-

nection with any institution that is openly and avowedly antagonistic to our public schools, am I necessarily a religious bigot, because that institution calls itself religious?

These are important questions, and questions which cannot be evaded or avoided by any person who desires to discharge his political responsibilities as an American citizen. Any individual unbiased enough to rationally consider the question must know that the maintenance and welfare of our public schools is most emphatically not a religious question. He must also know that it is a political question, since upon the broad, non-sectarian education of our children for intelligent citizenship depends the whole theory of our government. Therefore, he must inevitably regard with suspicion any writer or any publication that raises the cry of bigotry when such issues as these arise.

The hurling of epithets neither proves nor disproves anything. On the contrary, it usually raises a strong supposition that such a person is unwilling to submit his proposition to the searchlight of honest thought.—N. B. T.

**LABOR'S OPPORTUNITY.**—Having been a constant reader of *The Day Book* almost from its first issue I take the liberty of writing you about the opportunities the working class have today. I am but a humble toiler and am not prejudiced against any man because he is wealthy.

Any business man is justified in making a fair profit out of his investment, but in a statement that Henry Ford of Detroit made recently, the workers are the ones that produce the profits, but they do not get a fair share of them. If the workers were treated fairly in the matter of wages as well as their working condition they would not be compelled to have labor unions to fight for their rights, but they would have the encouragement to work faithfully, because they know they are being treated fairly,